THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The activities of the Coast Guard are limited to the duties and functions laid down under section 14 of the Coast Guard Act, 1978. The various activities of Coast Guard are as follows:—

1. Safety and protection of artificial islands, offshore terminals and other structures and devices.
2. Protection of Indian fishermen.
3. Assistance to fishermen in distress at sea.
4. Prevention and protection of marine environment.
5. Prevention and control of marine pollution.
6. Assisting the Customs and other authorities in anti smuggling operations.
7. Enforcement of marine laws in force.
8. Safety of life and property at sea.
9. Collection of scientific data.
10. Other duties as may be prescribed by the Government of India.

The Coast Guard duties and functions are statutory in accordance with the provisions of the Coast Guard Act, and therefore, there is no proposal to diversify the activities of the Indian Coast Guard.

Pull out from LoC along Pakistan border

2182. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pull out of defence forces from LoC along Pakistan border has not yielded desired results so far as cross border infiltration of terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned;

(b) how many encounters between security forces and terrorists have taken place near LoC and during terrorists' attacks on defence establishment in Jammu and Kashmir after the pull out;

(c) the loss of lives and property during these encounters; and

(d) steps taken to stop infiltration of terrorists from Pakistan into Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The strategic redeployment of our Armed forces has no direct bearing on cross border infiltration into Jammu & Kashmir. The decision on strategic redeployment of the Armed Forces does not envisage any lowering of the vigil on the Line of Control and of Counter Insurgency Grid in Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) and (c) There have been 24 encounters on the Line of Control with infiltration terrorist groups, from 21.10.2002 to 6.3.2003 in which 86 terrorists were killed. In this process 4 Army personnel were killed and 14 wounded. As regards the number of terrorist attacks on Army posts in hinterland during the same period there have been 21 such incidents in which one Army personnel was killed and 21 wounded. Four terrorists were also killed in these incidents.

(d) Adequate military measures have been taken to intercept and eliminate terrorist group attempting to infiltrate into J&K. The counter measures include surveillance of all known routes of infiltration. The counter infiltration posture is constantly being reviewed based on intelligence inputs and is paying good dividends by way of attrition caused on the terrorists.

Modernisation of police forces

†2183. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several States have not utilised the funds allotted for modernisation of police forces so far; and

(b) if so, the names of such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement showing the funds approved, Central assistance released and utilization reported by the State Governments pertaining to 2000-01 and 2001-02 is enclosed.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.